

The Office of the Secretary, the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity,
and Blacks in Government at Energy Present:

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

CELEBRATION



It Starts with Me: Creating a Beloved Community

January 17, 2023 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm (ET)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of Economic
Impact and Diversity

2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance

"It Starts with Me: Cultivating a Beloved Community"

January 17, 2023

Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

**Welcome Remarks
and Introduction of Secretary of Energy**

The Honorable Shalanda H. Baker
Director
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity
Secretarial Advisor on Equity

Remarks by Secretary of Energy

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm
Secretary of Energy

**Introduction of Blacks In Government
Regional President**

Tara Fuller
President
Blacks In Government Energy Chapter

**Remarks from Blacks In Government
Region XI Council President**

Stephan Matthews
President
Blacks In Government Region XI Council

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Vernita Galloway
2nd Vice-President and Membership Chair
Blacks In Government Energy Chapter

Keynote Speaker

The Honorable Marc A. Veasey
U.S. House of Representatives, D-TX, 33rd District

**Closing Remarks and Introduction
of Guest Performance**

Patricia A. Zarate
Deputy Director
Office of Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity

**Guest Vocal Performance
"If I Can Help Somebody"**
Written by Alma Bazel Androzzo
Cover Performance by Mahalia Jackson

Patrice Carthern
Secretary
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm

**16th Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy**



Jennifer M. Granholm was sworn in as the 16th Secretary of Energy on February 25, 2021, becoming just the second woman to lead the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Secretary Granholm will lead DOE in helping America achieve President Biden's goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 by advancing cutting-edge clean energy technologies, creating millions of good-paying union clean energy jobs, and building an equitable clean energy future. Secretary Granholm will also oversee DOE's core missions of promoting American leadership in scientific discovery, maintaining the nuclear deterrent and reducing nuclear danger, and remediating the environmental harms caused by legacy defense programs.

Prior to her nomination as Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm was the first woman elected Governor of Michigan, serving two terms from 2003 to 2011.

As Governor, Jennifer Granholm faced economic downturns caused by the Great Recession and meltdown in the automotive and manufacturing sectors. She successfully led efforts to diversify the state's economy, strengthen its auto industry, preserve the manufacturing sector, and add emerging sectors — such as clean energy — to Michigan's economic portfolio. Today, one-third of all North American electric vehicle battery production takes place in Michigan, the state is one of the top five states for clean energy patents, and 126,000 Michiganders were employed in the clean energy sector prior to COVID-19.

Secretary Granholm was also the first woman elected Attorney General of Michigan and served as the state's top law enforcement officer from 1998 to 2002.

After two terms as governor, Jennifer Granholm joined the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley as a Distinguished Professor of Practice in the Goldman School of Public Policy, focusing on the intersection of law, clean energy, manufacturing, policy, and industry. She also served as an advisor to the Clean Energy Program of the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Jennifer Granholm began her career in public service as a judicial clerk for Michigan's 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. She became a federal prosecutor in Detroit in 1990, and in 1994, she was appointed Wayne County Corporation Counsel.

Secretary Granholm, an immigrant from Canada, is an honors graduate of both the University of California, Berkeley and Harvard Law School. She and her husband, Daniel G. Mulhern, have three children.

The Honorable Marc A. Veasey

U.S. House of Representatives, D-TX, 33rd District



U.S. Congressman Marc Veasey proudly represents Texas' Congressional District 33 in the U.S. House of Representatives.

First elected to the Texas State House in 2004, then State Representative Veasey represented District 95, an area now part of the 33rd Congressional District, for five consecutive terms. As a member of the Texas State House, Rep. Veasey served in a number of leadership positions including Democratic Whip and Chair of the Democratic Caucus. In Dallas-Fort Worth, he led the state legislature in fighting for blue collar jobs, good schools, affordable healthcare, and voting rights.

As a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Veasey was appointed to serve on the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Armed Services. Prior to the 117th Congress, Rep. Veasey served on the Committee on Armed Services, Committee on Science Space and Technology and the Small Business Committee. The Congressman also founded the Voting Rights Caucus, is the Co-Chair of the Blue Collar Caucus, and Co-Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force on Foreign Affairs and National Security.

Committees:

Rep. Veasey is proud to serve on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the House Armed Services Committee. He was appointed to serve on three subcommittees on Energy and Commerce: Communications and Technology; Consumer Protection and Commerce; and Energy. He was also appointed to serve on two subcommittees on the House Armed Services Committee: Military Personnel; and Tactical Air and Land Forces. He is actively engaged in various congressional member organizations including the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Army Aviation Caucus, the Voting Rights Caucus, and the New Democrat Coalition.

Congressional District 33:

The 33rd Congressional District is an ethnically diverse district that spans from Fort Worth to Dallas and includes prominent neighborhoods in both Tarrant and Dallas counties. The 33rd District is anchored in Fort Worth's historic neighborhoods which include Carver Heights, Stop Six, Rolling Hills, the Northside, Diamond Hill Jarvis and Forest Hill. The district also extends east through parts of Arlington and into Dallas County communities like Oak Cliff, South Irving, Grand Prairie and West Dallas.

The Honorable Shalanda H. Baker

**Director
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity
Secretarial Advisor on Equity
U.S. Department of Energy**



The Honorable Shalanda H. Baker is the Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity at the U.S. Department of Energy and Secretarial Advisor on Equity. Prior to her Senate confirmation, she served as the Nation's first-ever Deputy Director for Energy Justice. Before joining the Biden-Harris Administration, she was a Professor of Law, Public Policy, and Urban Affairs at Northeastern University.

She has spent over a decade conducting research on the equity dimensions of the global transition away from fossil fuel energy to cleaner energy resources. She is the author of over a dozen articles, book chapters, and essays on renewable energy law, energy justice, energy policy, and renewable energy development. In 2016, she received a Fulbright-Garcia-Robles research fellowship to study climate change, energy policy, and indigenous rights in Mexico. She is the Co-Founder and former Co-Director of the Initiative for Energy Justice (www.iejusa.org), an organization committed to providing technical law and policy support to communities on the frontlines of climate change. Her book, *Revolutionary Power: An Activist's Guide to the Energy Transition* (Island Press 2021), argues that the technical terrain of energy policy should be the next domain to advance civil rights.

She received her BS from the United States Air Force Academy and JD from Northeastern University School of Law. She obtained her LLM while serving as a William H. Hastie Fellow at the University of Wisconsin School of Law.

Tara Fuller

President

Blacks In Government Energy Chapter U.S. Department of Energy



Tara Fuller works in the DOE's Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Office of Financial Policy and Audit Resolution as the Team Lead for the Department-wide Audit Resolution and Follow-up team. She serves as the lead Department-wide Audit Liaison on all Office of Inspector General (IG) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) audits for DOE and oversees the technical aspect of resolution and follow-up on DOE's For-Profit and Single Audits. Ms. Fuller, along with her Team manages a portfolio of over 150 to 300 audits (e.g., audit notifications, draft, and final reports) through the Departmental Audits Report Tracking System (DARTS) annually and monitors the implementation of corrective actions on open recommendations to ensure IG, GAO, for-profit and single audit matters are properly resolved. Tara maintains expertise on audit issues and audit standards through research, education, and professional organization.

Since March 2022, Ms. Fuller has served as President of the Blacks In Government (BIG) at Energy Chapter. The BIG at Energy Chapter has approximately 65 members. She previously served in several Chapter leadership roles within the chapter to include, Treasurer, Programs and Education Co-Chair, Membership Committee Co-Chair, and a Delegate and Representative for the Chapter at the BIG National Training Conference.

As President of the BIG at Energy Chapter, Ms. Fuller is seeking to:

- Increase the Chapter's membership;
- Engage current and new chapter members in new and innovative methods of navigating within the government;
- Provide members with training on leadership, professional development, health and wellness and financial stability topics; and
- Foster relationship with the Department of Energy by increasing the Chapter's presence with DOE's Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), senior management, and other stakeholders in the future.

Stephan Matthews

President

Blacks In Government Region XI Council



Since January 2022, Mr. Matthews has served as President of the Region XI Council of Blacks In Government (BIG). He leads BIG's largest region of 51 Chapters and approximately 2,500 members across the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. He previously served in several BIG leadership roles. To include, Regional First Vice President and Programs and Education Chair, Regional Emerging Leaders Chair, and the National Executive Committee of BIG as National NOW Generation Chair, a special committee focused on developing and cultivating programs for BIG members under the age of 40. He currently serves at the Acting President of the Robert C. Weaver HUD Chapter.

As President of Region XI Council of BIG, Mr. Matthews is seeking to:

- Increase Region XI membership;
- Engage current and prospective BIG members of all generations and backgrounds in new and innovative mediums;
- Provide world-class training on leadership, Chapter and Regional Officer and Committee Chair responsibilities, and various professional development topics; and
- Foster innovation throughout the Region by finding new ways for process improvements while increasing the Region's presence with internal and external stakeholders in 2023 and beyond and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

He hopes to accomplish these goals with his "READI" approach, Recruitment, Engagement, Advocacy, Development, and Innovation.

Stephan is a native of Washington, D.C., and is a lifelong resident of Prince Georges County, Maryland. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland University College and a Master of Science in Cybersecurity Law from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Public Administration. In his 13 years of Federal Government service, Mr. Matthews worked with several Federal agencies, including the Department of Justice in the Office of the Attorney General and the Office for Access to Justice, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Office of the Secretary. Currently, he is an Associate Executive Secretary in the Office of the Director at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) in Washington, D.C.

Vernita Galloway

**2nd Vice-President and Membership Chair
Blacks In Government Energy Chapter
U.S. Department of Energy**



Vernita Galloway has worked in the Federal Government for 37 years; this March will mark 38 years of Federal Government Service. She began her Federal Government career as Cooperative Office Program (COOP) student in her senior year while attending Howard D. Woodson Senior High School in Washington, D.C. Ms. Galloway currently works in the DOE's Office of General Counsel, Office of Standard Contract Management as a Program Analyst. She currently serves as a program analyst and processes records for claims from utility companies. She has worked on other projects to include but not limited to records management and the processing of DOE's FOIA requests.

Ms. Galloway became a member of Blacks In Government (BIG): Energy Chapter in April 1997. She joined the Energy Chapter to be part of an organization that advocates for employees to have an equal opportunity and address discrimination in the workplace. She currently serves as the 2nd Vice-President and is the Membership Committees Chair for the Energy Chapter.

Ms. Galloway enjoys outside activities include spending time with my family, attending and participating in activities at church, reading, and is an avid music listener.

Patricia A. Zarate

**Deputy Director
Office of Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity
U.S. Department of Energy**



Ms. Zarate has worked at the Department of Energy for fifteen years. She currently serves as the Deputy Director for Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity.

In her capacity as Deputy Director, Ms. Zarate provides executive direction for the Civil Rights Division; the EEO, Assessment, and Compliance Division; and the EEO Corporate Services and Oversight Division. Ms. Zarate is also responsible for oversight and implementation of the EEO Functional Realignment.

Ms. Zarate is responsible for formulating and executing equal employment opportunity (EEO) policies and practices, overseeing the internal EEO complaint process and external civil rights monitoring and enforcement functions (including discrimination complaints and compliance reviews pertaining to DOE financial assistance recipients), and advising Departmental leaders, managers, and employees of their rights and responsibilities with respect to federal anti-discrimination and anti-harassment laws and regulations. Prior to joining the Department, Ms. Zarate worked as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Nelda V. Rodriguez of the Texas Thirteenth District Court of Appeals.

Ms. Zarate graduated cum laude from St. Mary's University School of Law. She received her B.S.F.S. degree from Georgetown University. Ms. Zarate is licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and the District of Columbia.

Patrice Carthern

**Secretary
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity
U.S. Department of Energy**



Patrice Carthern is a gifted and talented singer, song-writer, and free-lance writer. In 1996, she answered the call to minister through singing and writing gospel music, short stories and Christian plays.

Ms. Carthern is a member of the First Baptist Church of Glenarden (FBCG) and serves in the various ministries within FBCG such as The United Voices Choir, the Family Life Department on the Women's Ministry Praise Team, and as a volunteer in the Youth Ministry "Unashamed." On September 3, 2016, she released her first solo project, "Audience of One."

Ms. Carthern joined the Department of Energy in 2008 and currently works in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity. She has been a civil servant for 31 years.

Ms. Carthern is a resident of Prince Georges County, Maryland, and the eldest sibling in her family. She is also a mother to three wonderful sons, Stephen, Josiah, and Kyle Carthern.



Blacks In Government (BIG) is celebrating 47 years of ideas vision, and drive. From our earliest beginnings, BIG has been a leading proponent of advocacy and education.

In 1982, a group of the Department of Energy (DOE) employees considered establishing an Energy Chapter of Blacks In Government and was formally chartered by the National Organization in 1983. The BIG Energy Chapter is one of fifty-one (51) Chapters who serve the Washington Metropolitan area (Region XI). In keeping with the tenets, goals, and philosophy of BIG nationally, our chapter strives to advocate equality and equity in all aspects of America and to enhance ethnic pride through social cultural program. We strive for excellence in public service, an opportunity for all Americans in the workplace, provide training and services to enhance job skills and assist in professional growth development and upward mobility.

The BIG Energy Chapter has a Scholarship Award Program which was reestablished in August of 2010 under the Presidency of Ms. Rosemary Hill which is one of the many BIG programs including community outreach and conducting workshops and seminars for employees for personal development, and wellness and health. We are also a major contributor to the Martin Luther King Program, African American History Month Program, Diversity Day Program, and Women History Month Program and other ERGs Groups within DOE.

For membership enrollment, please contact Ms. Vernita Galloway on 202 586-9117.

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